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Lessons Come to Life

City volunteers teach third-graders.

The award-winning CityStuff third-grade curriculum teaches students how a city works. Through six engaging, one-hour sessions, each trained volunteer uses hands-on materials and their own background to give students a primer on how a city plans and what kinds of businesses and jobs comprise the local economy. Other lessons focus on democracy in action; students learn how every vote counts. The program concludes with a visit to City Hall where students participate in a mock city council meeting.



Carlsbad third graders participate in a CityStuff Mock Council Meeting

Kathy Siemion, now in her third year as CityStuff coordinator, said, "We have an interesting blend of volunteers who bring their life experiences to the program. These involved people include architects, city planners, retired teachers, lobbyists, school board members and Realtors."

**" I was amazed...
How different from
the '50's classroom."**

Newcomers to the city have as much to offer CityStuff students as long-term residents and enjoy the opportunity to learn about their new home. "My greatest experience was just getting to know the community, as I moved here from LA County, in 2007. I was amazed

at the quantity of material in the classrooms that third graders are exposed to. How different from the '50's classroom," commented Beverly Brink, who began volunteering for CityStuff, in 2009.

Contact Kathy at citystuff1@gmail.com or 760-436-0140 if you would like to learn more.

Going Back to School

When parents volunteer in their child's classroom they do more than just help a teacher – they learn a lifelong lesson.



Volunteers work in the classroom.

You may not realize it at the time, but when you first help out at your child's pre-school or kindergarten, you have just launched yourself into the world of volunteerism. For many, this experience in their child's early education leads to a lifetime of involvement.

Take Michelle Seyle as an example. A former elementary teacher with two children and three stepchildren, she knows the value of being involved in her children's education. She now helps out at her child's pre-school – Kruger House, here in Carlsbad. Kruger House is a cooperative, where a professional teacher and director are employed, but parents are relied upon to actively participate. Michelle and the other parents participate during the preschool day, at monthly parent meetings, on work-party days, and occasionally during off-hours for special projects.

When you help out at your child's school, you're not just assisting the teacher. Michelle explains, "There are numerous hidden benefits of being in the classroom." From the teacher, parents can learn various tips and techniques that they can implement at home. Other rewards for volunteering in the classroom include getting a first-hand look at how your child is doing socially and being able to circumvent issues – social or academic - that may arise. Another unexpected bonus is that you get the opportunity to get to know the other parents and the kids, which creates a real sense of community and partnering in education.

Being involved in your children's education is a great way to demonstrate caring for what you care about.

Children benefit from classroom volunteers.



Volunteer Opportunities

EGGstravaganza

Saturday, April 3, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Poinsettia Park • 6600 Hidden Valley Rd.

Come celebrate spring with music, fun, games, crafts and a Fun Zone with bounce houses, a giant slide, obstacle courses and a chance to “soak the bunny.” Children get to collect eggs in the “Egg Scramble.” Volunteers help with all of these activities from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

To volunteer, contact Natalie at Natalie.Alegre@carlsbadca.gov or call 760-602-7511.



Greeter

Tuesday and/or Friday mornings, 8:50 – 11 a.m.

Carlsbad Learning Center • 3368 Eureka Place, Carlsbad, 92008

Great learning takes place at the Learning Center; however, volunteers are needed to allow people access to those opportunities – literally. We need volunteers willing to open the doors to tutors and learners while the building is still technically closed to the public. This is a very quiet position where you can study, read or listen to your tunes (with earphones, of course) while occasionally opening the door.

Contact Carrie at Carrie.Scott@carlsbadca.gov or 760-931-4515. or call 760-434-2929 for more information.

“If you cannot teach me to fly, teach me to sing.”

Sir James Matthew Barrie, Scottish Author and Dramatist 1860-1937

Around Carlsbad

André Kertész: On Reading

Feb. 21 - April 18, 2010

Canon Art Gallery • 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011

A prominent member of Henri Cartier-Bresson's circle in 1920's Paris, André Kertész created a series of photographs in Europe and the US, examining the power of reading as a universal pleasure. These 104 stunning photographs capture individuals immersed in the act of reading in a variety of settings—parks, cafés, libraries, rooftops, backstage, street corners, trains, and bookstands. His observations are engaging, and often amusing. They are drawn from the collection of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College, Chicago.



Thursdays on the Coast

Thursday, Feb. 25, 5:30 – 9 p.m.

Carlsbad Village

Thursdays on the Coast is a free, self-guided walking tour of established and emerging artist venues in the heart of Carlsbad Village. The Thursdays on the Coast event is held just steps from the beach in the center of the downtown area. Participating art venues include theatres, salons, antique shops, fashion boutiques and coffeehouses. Thursdays on the Coast features galleries, exclusive shop exhibits and fascinating live art demonstrations—as well as—tasty hors d'oeuvres, incredible wine tastings and beautiful live music at many fine Village establishments. It is a great way to check out Carlsbad's bustling and diverse art community.



**CITY OF
CARLSBAD**

Volunteer Resources

www.VolunteerinCarlsbad.net

*To expand your volunteer involvement citywide, contact Sue Irey, Volunteer Coordinator
sue.irey@carlsbadca.gov or 760-434-2929*